

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-7 and 9-18 have been cancelled and claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the elements of independent claim 1. Accordingly, the no new matter has been added. Thus, claim 8, which the Examiner has indicated is allowable, is the sole pending claim in the case.

The specification has been amended to correct an typographical error in the sequence of the V γ 1-8 primer (SEQ ID NO:3). A single "A" base has been deleted from the primer sequence on page 5 and page 15. In addition, a new sequence listing paper copy and computer disk have been filed herewith to incorporate the sequence change. The correct sequence for the V γ 1-8 primer (SEQ ID NO:3) is shown in the application in FIG. 4. Accordingly, the amendment of the specification to correct a typographical error raises no issue of new matter.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103

Claims 1-5, 7 and 9-15 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Menke et al. in view of Chen et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis for rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 7 and 9-15, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 6-18 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Menke et al. in view of Chen et al. and further in view of Chott. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis for rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 6-18, thus rendering the rejection moot.

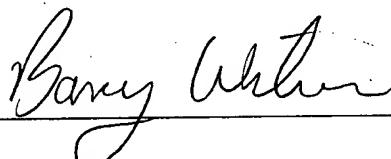
Claim 6 has been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Menke et al. in view of Chen et al. and further in view of Theodorou. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis for rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claim 6, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Date September 25, 2003

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